



METROPOLITAN  
TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION

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February 4, 2005

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*Therese W. McMillan*  
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Dear Interested Party:

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the nine county Bay Area, is the designated recipient for Federal Transit Administration (FTA) formula funds. As the designated recipient, MTC is responsible for programming the FTA funds to eligible projects and grantees in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The TIP is the region's transportation spending plan that contains public mass transit, highway, local road projects, bicycle, and pedestrian projects proposed for funding based on anticipated available federal, state, and local funding over the next three years.

The MTC region receives approximately \$300 million a year in FTA Section 5307 and 5309 Fixed Guideway funds combined. These funds are programmed to transit capital projects and transit operations. Every two to three years, MTC prepares a multi-year FTA Section 5307 and 5309 FG program based on revenue estimates in advance of receiving the funds.

When federal appropriations for transit projects are announced annually, MTC adjusts previously estimated project programming in the TIP to conform to the actual federal appropriation amounts. At the same time, MTC also amends certain transit programs and projects into the TIP that were not previously reflected in the TIP, such as federal earmarks. The attached proposed TIP Amendment 05-06 reflects these changes to the 2005 TIP. The federal transit programs affected by this TIP amendment include Section 5307, Section 5309, Surface Transportation Program (STP), Congestion Management and Air Quality (CMAQ), Section 5311, Section 5310, Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC), and Federal Earmarks.

FTA requires certain public participation requirements. To invite regional participation and to comply with these requirements, MTC is holding a public hearing on March 2, 2005 at 10:15, as part of its Programming and Allocations Committee Meeting to hear comments about the FY 2004-05 FTA annual TIP amendment. The **Notice of Public Hearing** is attached. The public review period begins on Friday, February 4, 2005. Public comments will be accepted until March 16, 2005 at 5 PM.

Public comments received after the March 2, 2005 hearing but prior to close of comment on March 16, 2005 will be reviewed at the March 23, 2005 Metropolitan Transportation Commission meeting when TIP amendment 05-06 are scheduled to be considered for adoption.

If you have any questions regarding these proceedings, please contact Kate Miller (510/464-7722) of my staff.

Sincerely,

Alix Bockelman  
Manager  
Programming and Allocations